



TOO MUCH DELAY JUDGE DROPS SEXUAL ABUSE CHARGES
{page 8}

PETTY TO ROCK CITY PROMOTER CONFIRMS SPRING SHOW AT METRO CENTRE {page 4}



BEACH BUMS

VOLLEYBALL TOURNEY BIGGER, BETTER

{page 4}



Weekend,
December 9-11, 2011
www.metronews.ca



News worth sharing.

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Weather. Bomb



► Clean-up crews remove a fallen tree from Russell Street in Halifax following high winds on Thursday.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Strong winds blow through

More than 14,000 Nova Scotia households were without power due to the storm. See story, Page 5.

Dad slapped and shook baby: Mom

► Gomes testifies: 'I never thought he could have done that to Aurora' ► Ex-boyfriend facing a manslaughter charge in death



ALY THOMSON
HALIFAX@METRONews.CA

The mother of an infant who died in Halifax said she threatened to leave her partner after he slapped and shook their daughter.

Jane Gomes testified Thursday that 25-year-old Ashiqur Rahman, who has pleaded not guilty to manslaughter and aggravated assault in their child's death, became frustrated when the baby wouldn't stop crying.

Gomes, 25, told Nova Scotia Supreme Court Rahman slapped Aurora Breakthrough and in one incident on July 15, 2009, held her by her hands and feet and shook her.

"I know he (hit) me sometimes ... but I never thought he could have done that to Aurora," said Gomes, who earlier testified Rahman pulled her hair.

Gomes testified she tried to leave Rahman on a few occasions, but he always apologized

and convinced her to stay.

Rahman was charged after his seven-week-old daughter died when she was taken off life support on July 27, 2009, the court heard.

Gomes said Aurora was brought to the hospital on July 23 after the couple noticed the baby looked "sleepy" and was having trouble breathing.

A neuropathologist has testified the infant had extensive brain injuries.

Gomes said they were taken into custody the morning after Aurora was brought to the hospital, but it wasn't until the second time she was questioned she told police about Rahman's alleged aggressive actions.

She testified she found her "voice again" after an officer showed her a figure of her injured daughter.

"I was not trying to save him ... but I thought he wouldn't leave it up to me to tell all this," said

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS



"She's my first child, and wherever she is, she's always with me."

JANE GOMES SPEAKING ABOUT HER DECEASED BABY, AURORA BREAKTHROUGH

Gomes.

She has pleaded guilty to failing to provide necessities of life in her daughter's death and received a conditional sentence and probation.

Gomes returns to the witness stand Friday.

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Teen shot multiple times in North Preston

► Second shooting on Cain Street this year ► No one yet in custody



► An RCMP officer walks near the spot where a 19-year-old man was shot several times late Wednesday night on Cain Street in North Preston.

JENNIFER
TAPLIN
@METRONEWS.CA

A young man was in critical condition in hospital on Thursday, suffering from multiple gunshot wounds.

Halifax RCMP were called out to Cain Street in North Preston just before midnight on Wednesday.

"When we arrived we found a young man suffering from gunshot wounds and he had to be transported to the QEII hospital," said Cpl. Scott MacRae,

spokesman for the RCMP. The man was found on the road.

Sources say the 19-year-old victim is Rakiem Smith.

MacRae said at this point investigators don't believe it was a random shooting, but cautioned it is still early in the investigation.

"As our major crime investigators work and we uncover or find new information, we'll see if that remains the same or if we have to do an update to advise the public."

Shootings

Reported shootings on Cain Street in North Preston:

- Four in 2010.
- Three in 2009.

Investigators taped off a section of Cain Street on Thursday, particularly around several blankets left in a heap on the road.

"The blankets people have seen in images from the media are part of the scene," MacRae said. "For the most part that's where

the young man was laying."

MacRae said on Thursday afternoon the victim's condition was holding at critical but stable.

The sound of gunshots is not rare in this area.

There was one other shooting there this year. Nathan Cross, 22, was shot on Churchill Terrace, a small lane off Cain Street, in April. Cross was wearing body armour at the time, but died en route to the hospital. RCMP investigated a vehicle parked at 1 Cain Street.



Dexter rejects plea from business to change labour bill

Premier Darrell Dexter says he's not swayed after business groups issued a "final plea" to amend a contentious bill that would impose first contracts in unionized workplaces. In an open letter to Dexter, the businesses ask him not to pass the bill as it stands.

Business groups have expressed concerns that so-called first-contract arbitration would hurt competitiveness and give unions a foothold in non-unionized workplaces.

But Dexter says there will be no further amendments to the legislation.

Under the bill, an arbitrator would have the right to impose a first contract in a workplace where management and workers have not been able to reach an agreement after at least 120 days of talks and conciliation.

A government amendment to the bill would allow one of the sides to seek a 60-day extension.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

1
news



The theft of \$17,000 worth of gift certificates adds insult to the still-fresh injury of flood victims in Quebec. Scan the code for the story.

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Halifax will be Free Fallin'

Take it to the bank. Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers will be rocking Halifax in 2012.

"There's no doubt about that," concert promoter David Carver said of the legendary rock band coming to the provincial capital next year.

Carver confirmed to

Metro Halifax on Thursday night the group will be playing two shows next spring in Atlantic Canada — one at the Metro Centre and the other at Mile One Stadium in St. John's.

He said specific dates haven't been confirmed, but the group will be coming here in either late May or early June.

"I know it's going to sell out," he said specifically of the Halifax show, which is rumoured to be happening June 3. "If it was later in the year, I'd be hoping to do the show outdoors somewhere. But because it's late May or early June, the Metro Centre is the place to do it."

Carver, a Newfound-

land native, operates his own concert promoting business and produced the show that saw Aerosmith rock P.E.I. in 2007.

He didn't have a specific date on when the official announcement, including ticket prices, would be made, but expected it to happen soon.

PHILIP CROUCHER

ALBERTO E. RODRIGUEZ/GETTY IMAGES



► Tom Petty

World juniors returning

► Tickets on sale at sandjamhalifax.ca



**MATTHEW
WUEST**
@METRONEWS.CA

\$2.6M Economic
Impact
from the 2011 event,
organizers say

The FIVB world junior beach volleyball championship isn't just coming back to Halifax. It's going to be bigger, longer, and organizers hope even better.

The annual under-21 tournament — which drew three days of sellouts and 15,000 fans to the Halifax waterfront earlier this year — is returning to the Salter Lot in 2012 from Aug. 28 to Sept. 2.

Halifax, which will become the first repeat host in the event's 11-year history, will expand the tournament from 48 teams to 64 and extend it from five days to six.

"More teams means more countries means more story lines, and it's going to make it all that much better," said Derek Martin, who is primarily responsible for bringing the tournament to the city.

"They called us the Monday after the event and asked if we'd be interested ... We knew all along we'd

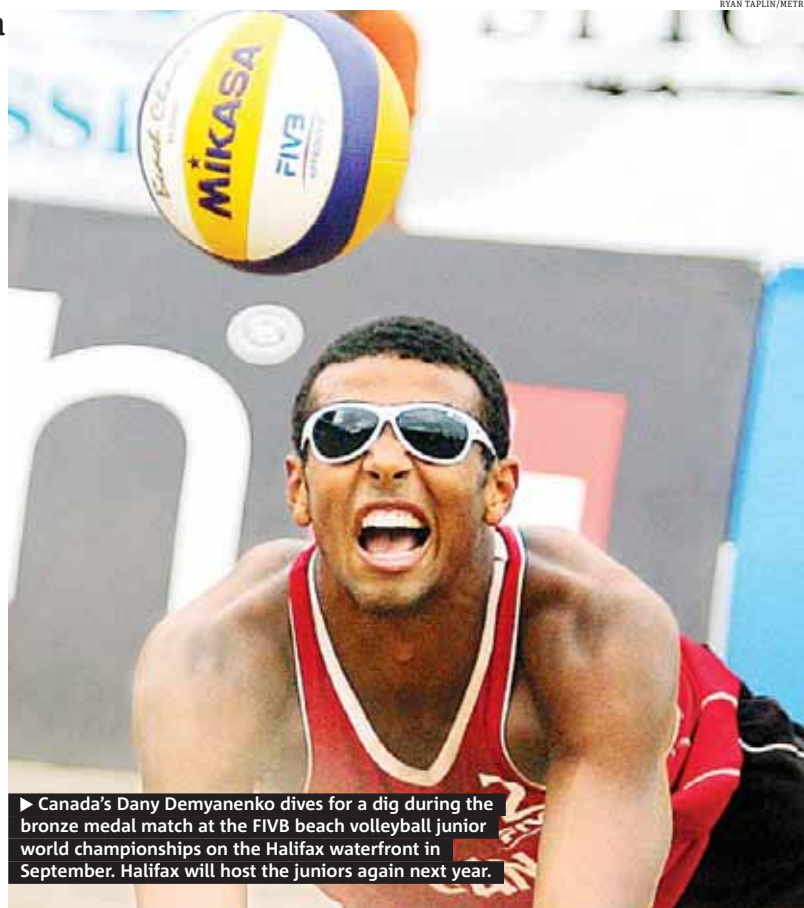
like to do it again if we had the chance, and it's exciting to take another shot at it."

The stars of this year's tournament, silver-medallists Melissa Humana-Paredes and Victoria Altomare of Toronto, were on hand for Thursday's event launch at the Westin Nova Scotian. Paredes, who will return to the tournament with a new partner since Altomare is no longer age-eligible, said this year's tournament turned out "beautifully."

The 19-year-old said she can't wait to take another shot at gold.

"Halifax feels like a second home for me because last year was definitely the best experience of my life, and I can say that hands down," she said.

"Knowing that happened here, on home court, with Canadians supporting me, is huge. Being able to come back, and hopefully perform as well as I did last year, means a lot to me."



► Canada's Dany Demyanenko dives for a dig during the bronze medal match at the FIVB beach volleyball junior world championships on the Halifax waterfront in September. Halifax will host the juniors again next year.

Girl charged in gas theft

Police say charges are expected against a 17-year-old female in relation to a gas station being held up by knife-point in Armdale on Thursday morning.

Halifax Regional Police say they responded to a robbery at the Ultramar at 173 Herring Cove Rd.

No injuries

Police say there were no injuries.

shortly after 10:30 a.m. after a woman entered the store, showed a knife and

demanding cash from staff.

She left with an undisclosed amount of money, and fled the scene on foot.

Police say on Thursday afternoon, they arrested the youth in connection with the incident and she was being held in custody.

METRO

News in brief

Convenience store robbed

Police say a man with a gun held up the Needs convenience store on Herring Cove Road on Wednesday night.

A man entered the

store, showed the handgun, then demanded the clerk give him all the cash. Police say the clerk complied and the suspect fled with the money and cigarettes.

The suspect is described as being between the ages of 18 and 20 and was wearing a bandana around his neck.

METRO



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

► A man walks past a Queen Street store on Thursday. There's a pretty good possibility the only snowflakes HRM residents see on Christmas Day will be on shop windows like this one.

Keep on dreaming of a white Christmas

► Last year had just trace of snow on the ground, which doesn't qualify as a White Christmas



JENNIFER TAPLIN
@METRONEWS.CA

Just as Bing Crosby croons, the only White Christmas you might see this year is in your dreams.

It's still too early to tell if Halifax will have a picturesque scattering of snow on the ground as the kids rip into their presents on Dec. 25. The earliest extended forecast for Christmas Day won't be available until Dec. 18.

But until then, Environment Canada posted the chances of a white Christ-

mas based on statistics from the past 55 years.

In the last half-century, Halifax has an average 58 per cent chance of having at least two centimetres of snow on the ground by 7 a.m. Christmas Day.

But it's only 47 per cent in the past two decades (1991 to 2009).

"There's really no explanation for (the drop) at the moment," said Tracey Talbot, a meteorologist with Environment Canada. "There's so many factors that are involved so you can't necessarily blame it on climate change per se,

but it's something that could be looked into."

Technically, the last Halifax white Christmas was in 2009 when there was five centimetres of snow on the ground.

Perfect Christmases are even fewer and far between. Environment Canada classifies a perfect Christmas as having snow both on the ground and falling from the sky.

Given the past 55 years of data, Halifax has only a 24 per cent chance of a perfect Christmas. The last one was in 2000 with a couple of centimetres of

Snow hopes

Some other cities' chances of having a white Christmas:

- Sydney — 62 per cent
- Goose Bay, N.L. — 100 per cent
- Moncton, N.B. — 73 per cent
- Vancouver — 11 per cent
- Toronto (GTA) — 55 per cent

the white stuff on the ground and 18 cm falling that day.

Correction to photo cutline

Sean Dewitt contributed the standalone photo Driver escapes injury in rig crash in Thursday's edition of Metro Halifax. Incorrect information appeared in the photo cutline.

WINDS REACHING 100 KM/H

Weather bomb hits Atlantic Canada

There was no snow in sight Thursday, but plenty of rain and wind from a pressure-dropping weather bomb.

Environment Canada forecasters said potential-

ly damaging winds reaching 100 km/h or more were expected in almost every county of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, northern New Brunswick and the west and north coasts of Newfoundland.

"Any time you get winds of this magnitude — gusting to 100 — usually you can see some small trees that may get toppled over or branches that fall off or shingles that may lift up," said Environment Canada meteorologist Mel Lemmon.

A tree snapped and landed in the middle of Russell Street in Halifax's north end, scaffolding was blown off at Alderney Landing and struck a vehicle and building supplies were ripped off the roof of a new building on Waterfront Drive in Bedford.

There were some delays at the Halifax airport and police issued warning for motorists to drive carefully given the conditions.

● JENNIFER TAPLIN WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS



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► Tory Leader Jamie Baillie speaks with reporters in this file photo.

Opposition wants report

► Dexter says releasing Bowater report would damage mill's chances for success ► Liberal Manning MacDonald says bailout was purely political



ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

Premier Darrell Dexter got his wish for the Bowater

bailout bill to be discussed on the floor of the House of Assembly on Thursday.

Opposition parties grilled the government on the legislation, which en-

shrines a \$50 million bailout for the Resolute Forest Products operation in Liverpool, during question period.

The Liberals are calling on Dexter to release all information that led to the deal — chiefly an \$80,000 study into the future of the global paper market.

"If the premier and the NDP government believe that this agreement is important enough to bring forward this legislation, the premier should release details of the assessment to the house, so that the 52 members who represent the people of this province have an opportunity to examine the case," Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil charged.

Dexter said the reports include information that may hurt the mill if made available to their competitors.

"The reason why you do those (reports) is to try and strengthen the ability of your mills to be able to compete in that marketplace," said Dexter.

Premier reacts

► "It's important that we not turn that information over to the competitors of the mills so they can then do damage to their economic prospects," said Premier Darrell Dexter.

"The rest of the agreement with Bowater is transparent and self-evident."

The province will spend \$23.75 million on buying land from the mill, which will be advanced to the company in January.

A \$25 million forgivable loan will be doled out over the five-year life of the deal, and the province is putting \$1.5 million towards training for the workers.

Progressive Conservative Jamie Baillie criticized his fellow politicians for playing politics.

"Because the government has chosen the political route of putting (the deal) in one bill, and it's this deal or no deal, we don't believe that no deal is an acceptable option," he said.

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NSCAD puts forward recommendations in government report



ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

The board of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design has sent a report into the institution's viability back to the government with recommendations.

The board met with Howard Windsor, a former deputy minister appointed by Labour and Advanced Education Minister Marilyn More to examine the university's books, on Thursday.

"Following lengthy and productive discussion the report has been returned to Minister Marilyn More with recommendations for incorporation in the final report expected to be released the week of December 12," wrote NSCAD spokeswoman Marilyn Smulders.

The school is facing a \$2.4 deficit this year, and the idea of a merger with another institution — which NSCAD faculty and students oppose — has been tossed around for months.

Premier Darrell Dexter wouldn't say whether his government wants to keep NSCAD an independent institution yesterday.

"Our preference is that we have a strong institution that is able to contribute to the academic and economic life of the province," Dexter told reporters.



► Howard Windsor

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Local blood clinics cut back hours

Capital Health is shortening hours for blood collection at Bayers Road Centre, Halifax Infirmary and the VG site, but will have more manpower in the morning for peak hours. ● METRO

N.S. to spend on jobs: Source

A Nova Scotia government source says the province will announce a capital spending budget for fiscal 2012-13 that will fund about 150 projects.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, says the projects include hospital renovations, highway work and new

schools, some of which have been announced.

The source says the capital budget won't be as high as the last two fiscal years, during which federal stimulus money was included, but adds it will be higher than previous years.

The source says the government expects the proj-

Capital plan

► Finance Minister Graham Steele will announce the 2012-13 capital plan Friday.

ects will generate 4,500 direct jobs and another 3,100 indirect jobs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Judge tosses sex abuse convictions

► MacIntosh found guilty in July 2010 on 13 of 26 charges of indecent assault, gross indecency
► Crown considering an appeal

A former Cape Breton businessman found guilty of sexually abusing teenage boys in the 1970s had his convictions overturned Thursday because of a long delay in bringing him to trial.

The Nova Scotia Court of Appeal found that Ernest Fenwick MacIntosh was not brought to trial in a reasonable time after he was extradited from India in 2007 to face the charges that surfaced in 1995 and dated back to the 1970s.

Justice Duncan Beveridge overturned all of the convictions, finding in his 62-page decision that MacIntosh's "right to be tried within a reasonable time was infringed."

Brian Casey, MacIntosh's lawyer, said he was pleased with the decision but that it came at a great price to his client.

MacIntosh, who's in his late 60s, was sentenced to four years in prison in his first trial, but given credit

"It's too bad that it's taken four-and-a-half years of Mr. MacIntosh's life and his life savings to get here when the matters shouldn't have proceeded in this fashion in the first place."

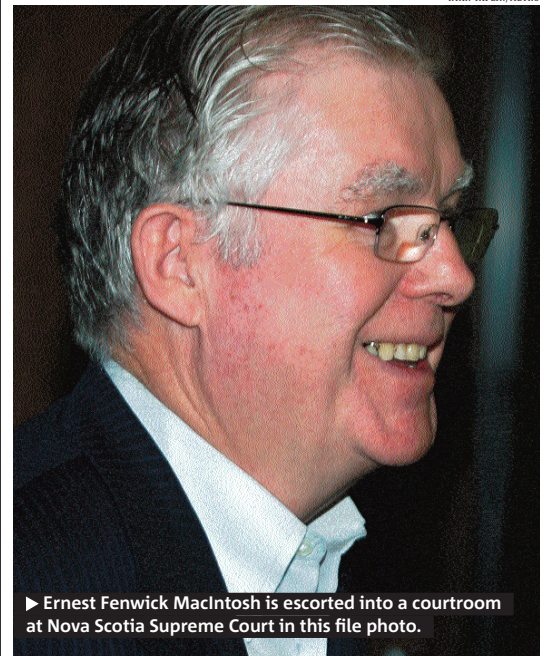
BRIAN CASEY, MACINTOSH'S LAWYER

for two years' time served.

He was later sentenced to 18 months in jail on separate sex-related charges involving other boys in the 1970s.

More than a decade had passed by the time the RCMP received complaints from men alleging they were sexually abused by MacIntosh as boys in Cape Breton. By the time the men came forward, MacIntosh had left Canada to set up a business and residence in India. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



► Ernest Fenwick MacIntosh is escorted into a courtroom at Nova Scotia Supreme Court in this file photo.



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Pinching the pennies this holiday season

► Haligonians say they won't be breaking the bank over the next couple of weeks ► Young people say they're planning to spend half as much

Bah Humbug!

As you head out to join the crowds at the shops this weekend, how much do you expect to spend compared to last year?

Well, according to a recent survey, 37 per cent of shoppers in HRM plan to spend less this year compared to the past three years. And among the 18 to 34 year olds that number jumps to 47 per cent.

A slight majority, 54 per cent, expect to spend the same as in recent years and only nine per cent will spend more.

When responding to

the question, "Thinking about those you normally buy gifts for, how much do you anticipate spending?" there is little difference in the responses from men and women.

On average, people are expecting to spend just over \$1,000 for Christmas this year but more women than men said they expect to spend less this year.

Forty-seven per cent of women say they'll spend less, compared to 27 per cent of men.

It's not that they're turning into Scrooges, but research shows consumers are increasingly

480

The survey asked 480 HRM residents. It carries a margin of error of plus-or-minus 4.7 per cent.

concerned about their incomes.

They're also listening more to advice that suggests we should be paying down our debt and saving more.

Sixty-one per cent of respondents in HRM say paying down debt is their first financial priority.

For women, that number rises to 69 per cent.

The real question is how much less we may actually spend. The numbers suggest not that much less; maybe three to four per cent.

The impact on retailers may still result in an overall increase across the market. We'll wait for the dust to settle on the Boxing Day frenzy to see.

● RICK EMBERLEY

RICK EMBERLEY IS SENIOR COUNSEL WITH THE POLLING FIRM MQO RESEARCH. HE HAS CONDUCTED PUBLIC-OPINION RESEARCH IN THE REGION FOR OVER 25 YEARS.



► Visitors to the Halifax Shopping Centre in 2008 were more likely to spend their cash on holiday gifts.

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Policeman killed at Virginia Tech

► Gunman found dead in parking lot ► Campus was quieter as classes ended Wednesday

A gunman killed a police officer in a Virginia Tech parking lot and was found dead nearby Thursday in an attack that sent fear through the campus nearly five years after it was the scene of the deadliest shooting rampage in modern U.S. history.

The school locked down for hours and warned students and faculty members via email and text message to stay indoors.

"Today, tragedy again struck Virginia Tech," said university president Charles Steger.

The police officer was killed after pulling a driver over in a traffic stop. The gunman, who was not involved in the traffic stop, walked into the parking lot

"It's crazy that someone would go and do something like that with all the stuff that happened in 2007."

COREY SMITH, 19-YEAR-OLD SOPHOMORE

and shot the officer, Sgt. Robert Carpentieri said. A law enforcement official confirmed the gunman was dead.

It appeared the gunman died in another school parking lot, where officials said a man was found dead with a gun nearby. While police wouldn't confirm the second body was the gunman, Carpentieri said "you can kind of read between the lines." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



► A police officer secures the scene where a gunman killed a police officer after a traffic stop Thursday, on the campus of Virginia Tech, in Blacksburg, Va.

Shafia says he was a loving, lenient father

A man accused of killing his three daughters over family honour portrayed himself Thursday as a loving, benevolent and lenient father, even though his children were cruel to him.

The picture Mohammad Shafia painted of himself as he took the stand at his murder trial was in stark contrast to evidence the jury has heard from Crown witnesses over the past six weeks. Court has heard that his children were

afraid of him, begging authorities to remove them from the home, and that he cursed them as treacherous on wiretaps secretly recorded after their deaths.

What Shafia meant, when he was recorded on the wiretaps saying that even if the girls came back to life 100 times he would "do the same again," is that he would continue to give them good advice, he told court.

Shafia and his wife, Too-



► Mohammad Shafia, left, is escorted from the holding cell at the Frontenac county courthouse in Kingston, Ont., on Thursday.

ba Yahya, 41, and their son Hamed, 20, have each pleaded not guilty to four counts of first-degree murder.

They're accused of killing Zainab, 19, Sahar, 17 and Geeti Shafia, 13, and Rona Amir Mohammad, 52, Shafia's first wife in a polygamous marriage. The four bodies were found June 30, 2009, inside a car submerged in a canal in Kingston, Ont.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Devil talk

► Shafia also tried to explain what he meant when he said on the wiretaps, "May the devil (defecate) on their graves."

► "To me it means that the devil would go out and check with them in graves," Shafia said. "If they have done a good thing it would be good, if they did bad it would be up to God what to do."

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Hunted saves hunter's life

► Couple skins moose calf to keep warm after getting lost in a hunting trip

Steve and Sheila Joyce of Steady Brook, N.L., were hunting Tuesday afternoon when they wounded a moose calf and then became disoriented while tracking it through the woods between Corner Brook and Bonne Bay.

As dusk fell and the temperature dropped to a few degrees above freezing, they realized they were hopelessly lost.

That's when they suddenly came upon the wounded calf and killed it, a recovering Sheila Joyce said Thursday from their

"We never would have made it through the night because we were both wet, shivery and cold."

SHEILA JOYCE

home. They used its skin to keep warm through the night.

Joyce, in her mid-40s, has hunted with her husband for the last several years.

They had followed a blood trail from where they had wounded the calf near their SUV. Their food and water was in the vehicle and her husband had set down their survival pack as they tracked the animal for what they thought would be a brief chase, she explained.

The couple's son, who searched through the night, alerted nearby hunters, who fired a shot into the air to find them.

The couple sent back an answering blast and was soon rescued.

They were briefly checked into a hospital and are now home.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► In this handout photo, Steve Joyce wears a moose hide as a life-saving blanket. Joyce and his wife, Sheila, spent a cold night lost in the woods of western Newfoundland during a hunting trip.

HANDOUT/SHEILA JOYCE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Zoo keeper resigns

A Calgary Zoo keeper has resigned following a review of the death of a corn snake.

The zoo says in a news release that the keeper resigned after a disciplinary hearing held because the worker failed to follow instructions, which contributed to the snake's death on Oct. 9.

Michelle Poisson, director of human resources for the zoo, said the investigation concluded the keeper's failure to follow

instructions was not a mistake or an accident. The zoo says the reptile needed an accessible heat source prior to being fed in order to increase its metabolism and stimulate feeding.

The zoo says the worker did not follow the procedures, did not ask for assistance from senior keepers and showed a lack of judgment by improvising a non-approved procedure that led to the snake's death.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

STUDENT DEATH

School charged for explosion

The Ottawa Catholic School Board has been charged in the death of an 18-year-old student killed in a shop class explosion on May 26.

Fire officials say they have charged the board under an Ontario Fire Act article that forbids any welding or cutting on a totally enclosed container. Eric Leighton was re-

portedly working on an oil drum in class the day of the explosion at Mother Teresa High School.

Ottawa fire says the case is due back in court Dec. 12. The Catholic board faces a maximum \$100,000 fine if convicted on the charge. No criminal charges are being laid in relation to the explosion and the outcome of an Ontario Ministry of Labour investigation has not yet been released.

The school banned all welding following Leighton's death.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHILD ABUSE

Scouts Canada apologizes

In a solemn six-minute video posted online Thursday, Scouts Canada offered a public apology to all former members who may have "suffered harm" at the hands of volunteer leaders in the past and announced a third-party review of its records relating to abuse.

"Our sincere efforts to

prevent such crimes have not always succeeded. We are sorry for that," chief commissioner Steve Kent said in the YouTube video.

"We are saddened at any resulting harm. Our most profound sympathies extend to all victims and to their families."

Kent's words came weeks after a report on CBC's Fifth Estate alleged Scouts Canada maintained a list of suspected pedophiles and did not share it with authorities.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Apology rings hollow

Japan's apology to the Canadian veterans who suffered brutal treatment in prisoner of war camps during the Second World War is too late to be of significant meaning, veterans said Thursday.

Officials gathered in Tokyo for a ceremony to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Hong Kong, a disastrous campaign in which hundreds of Canadian soldiers were killed or wounded.

Japan's parliamentary vice-minister for foreign af-

fairs Toshiyuki Kato apologized for the mistreatment of those soldiers who survived the battle and spent years toiling in labour camps.

The declaration, delivered to an audience that included Canada's Veterans Affairs Minister Steven Blaney, missed the mark for one of its intended targets.

A spokesman for Veterans Affairs Canada said efforts to seek an apology from Japan had been under way for some time.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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No link between abortion, anxiety

Study finds unwanted pregnancies, not abortion, trigger mental-health issues in women

Abortion does not increase a woman's chance of developing mental-health problems, according to the largest study ever to investigate the issue.

Among women with unwanted pregnancies, those who had abortions were no more likely to suffer from problems including anxiety or depression than women

who gave birth, the research review by the U.K.'s National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health found.

The research shows that

abortion does not cause mental-health problems, but raises a warning that officials must address the problem of unwanted pregnancy, said Dr. Tim Kendall,

the centre's director.


The study is likely to be met by skepticism by those who that terminating a pregnancy can trigger depression or other mental ill-

nesses. Kendall said mental health problems seemed to be linked specifically to unwanted pregnancies rather than abortion.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Ad. Backtrack

► This undated image shows a Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board ad meant to warn young adults about the connection between heavy drinking and rape.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Liquor board pulls rape ad

A spokeswoman for the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board says the ad was pulled Wednesday after complaints that it blamed women for being victims.

Obama backs idea to keep Plan B off shelves

President Barack Obama on Thursday defended his health secretary's decision to stop the Plan B morning-after pill from moving onto drugstore shelves next to condoms.

"As the father of two daughters," he said, "I think it is important for us to make sure that we apply some common sense to various rules when it comes to over-the-counter medicine." The president spoke the morning after his administration stunned

major doctors' groups and women's health advocates with the decision.

Plan B is a pill that can prevent pregnancy if taken soon enough after unprotected sex. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius overruled scientists at the Food and Drug Administration who were preparing to let Plan B sell without a prescription to people of any age. Sebelius decided that young girls shouldn't be able to buy the pill on their own, saying she was worried about whether 11-year-olds would know how to use it properly.

Obama said Sebelius made that decision on her own. But he said he thought she was worried about young girls experiencing harmful side-effects. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



► Russian President Dmitry Medvedev had an obscene characterization of a prominent opposition figure appear on his Twitter account.

Tasteless tweet raises Russia's ire

► Offending retweet of a post by United Russia ideologue has been removed from Medvedev's account

President Dmitry Medvedev's affection for going online has turned off-colour after an obscene characterization of a prominent opposition figure appeared on his Twitter account.

Medvedev's tweets are usually bland, such as congratulating victorious sports teams. So the post describing popular opposition figure Alexei Navalny as a sheep engaging in an unprintable sexual act

sparked huge attention.

A Kremlin statement says the message, a retweet of a posting by United Russia party ideologue and former parliament member Konstantin Rykov, was posted by an unnamed member of the president's technical staff.

The post, late Tuesday, came on the second straight day of large demonstrations by protesters over the vote fraud seen

in Russia's parliamentary election Sunday.

The post does not mention Navalny by name, but clearly refers to him, denouncing the phrase the "party of crooks and thieves" that Navalny popularized on his blog to characterize United Russia.

Navalny was arrested Monday on the first night of protests in Moscow and sentenced to 15 days in jail.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Attawapiskat on the hook for finance consultant

► Troubled reserve must pay federally appointed manager \$180K

The federal government is forcing the troubled Attawapiskat First Nation to pay a private-sector consultant about \$1,300 a day to run its finances — even though the government's own assessments say the third-party management system is not cost-effective.

Aboriginal Affairs officials told The Canadian Press they have an agreement to pay Jacques Marion of BDO Canada LLP a total of \$180,000 to look after the reserve's accounts from now until June 30.

The money comes from the Attawapiskat First Nation's budget.

That rate over the course of a year would run up to \$300,000 and easily pay for at least one nice, solid



► The remains of a Canadian flag can be seen flying over a building in Attawapiskat, Ont., on Nov. 29.

house, notes Mushkegowuk Grand Chief Stan Louttit.

"And (Aboriginal Affairs) should pay for this over and above First Nations existing budgets," he said.

Instead, the band will soon find itself cutting off educational assistants and

aides for special-needs children in order to scrape together the money to pay the consultant, said New Democrat MP Charlie Angus, whose northern Ontario riding includes Attawapiskat.

But Prime Minister

"What they've done is taken \$300,000 out of this band's limited budget for political cover to pay for the mistakes of an incompetent minister."

NEW DEMOCRAT MP CHARLIE ANGUS

Stephen Harper brushed aside criticism of the fees and requests from the opposition to cover the costs. Harper told the House of Commons the government is just making sure the band council in Attawapiskat stops mismanaging taxpayers' money.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

EXPLOITATION TARGETED

New child porn law puts onus on Internet providers

A new law aimed at curbing child pornography on the Internet is now in force.

The law requires Internet service providers to report tips they get about websites containing child

porn.

They also have to tell police if they believe a child porn offence has been committed using their service.

Failure to comply carries fines ranging from \$1,000 to \$100,000 or jail time for repeat offenders.

Justice Minister Rob Nicholson says the exploitation of children by online sexual predators is a serious crime.

The government says the law balances privacy concerns with the need to tackle the issue.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Co-workers claim \$21M jackpot

A jovial bunch of co-workers from Penetanguishene, Ont., picked up a \$21-million prize Thursday after winning a Lotto Max jackpot.

Each of the 12 mental-health workers, who range in age from 33 to 63 and said they were all great friends outside of work, will get \$1.75 million from the Nov. 25 draw.

Most in the group said they would be returning to their jobs despite their new riches, although one or two plan to retire.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GRAND OPENING AND HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

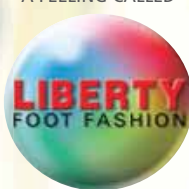
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OILSANDS DEVELOPMENT

Joslyn mine gets approval

The federal government has given the green light for the Joslyn oilsands mine project to go ahead, six years after Total E&P Canada first proposed it.

Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver said Thursday that construction can now begin on the mine near Fort McMurray, Alta., though there remains a two-week consultation period with local First Nations groups.

The prolonged review

process for Joslyn shows the need for Canada to streamline its regulatory system, Oliver said in a statement.

Suncor Energy, Canada's largest energy company, picked up a minority interest in Joslyn late last year through a \$1.75-billion deal with the French-owned E&P.

Environmental groups were quick to blast the approval, particularly since it comes during the United Nations climate-change conference in South Africa.

The oilsands have been criticized because of the greenhouse gases that are emitted when fossil fuels are burned.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

China court rejects Apple lawsuit

A court in southern China has rejected a claim by Apple Inc. that a Taiwanese-owned company has infringed its iPad trademark, a ruling that could threaten U.S. company's sales of its tablet computer in the country.

Apple's spokesperson in Beijing declined to comment Thursday on the decision by the Intermediate People's Court in the southern city of Shenzhen.

The court said on its website that it dismissed a lawsuit on Monday by Apple against Shenzhen Provview Technology over the ownership of the iPad trademark.

The court has ruled that the Shenzhen company is not bound by a 2009 agreement that its Taiwanese affiliate made with Apple to transfer the trademarks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Economy at risk from Euro crisis, BoC says

► Potential for 'adverse shock' increased: Bank of Canada

Canadians need to start worrying about the worsening debt mess in Europe and its ability to hit hard in this country, the Bank of Canada warned Thursday in its semi-annual financial stability review.

"The (bank's) governing council judges that the risks to the stability of Canada's financial system are high and have increased markedly over the past six months," the central bank stated.

"Since June, the global retrenchment of risk associated with the European crisis has indeed resulted in a significant correction in the prices of equities and other risky assets, as well as a widening of credit spreads in Canada."

Frankly, the bank said, measures currently under-

taken to bring the European debt crisis under control "have repeatedly fallen short of what is needed."

On Wednesday night, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty poured cold water on an unconfirmed report that G20 nations would funnel \$600 billion US to Europe through the International Monetary Fund.

European leaders were meeting later in the day for yet another attempt to come up with a solution to a debt crisis that have put countries in the eurozone, including Germany, on watch for a debt rating downgrade.

The bank made it clear that Canada's problems to date are of a factor lower than those faced by European nations and the United States. But the report

warned that Canadian banks are not out of wreckage range should Europe's financial system crash.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

TSX

↓
- 196.93
(11,951.79)

Dollar

↓
- \$1.19
(97.79¢ US)

Oil

↓
- \$2.15 US
(\$98.34 US)

Natural gas

\$3.457 US
(+ 3.6¢ US)

Gold

\$1,713.40 US
(- \$31.40 US)

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. THURSDAY

Twitter rolls out tweaks

Twitter has redesigned its short messaging service to make it simpler, faster and

more personal.

The changes were released Thursday in updates to Twitter's applications for smartphones and tablet computers. Users should begin to see the new look during the next few weeks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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TWEET CHILD O' MINE

THE METRO LIST

NEIL MORTON
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1 **Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra:** Classical music went all hip when Tourism Calgary and CPO, as part of its vocal warmup to a new season, asked followers on Twitter to tweet their advice for staying toasty this winter. CPO assembled the best 20 tweets, set them to an offbeat compilation version of O Fortuna, and posted their performance, Singing Tweets, to YouTube. It is believed to be the first professional Twitter chorus ever created. A tweetorus.

2 **Heroes exhibit:** Inspired by his nephew, who overcame brain cancer, artist/gallery owner Mark Gleberzon has launched an exhibit, Heroes: Real, Fictional and Close to Home, which runs through Dec. 31 at his MJG gallery in Toronto. It features works by 16 artists who have interpreted the theme "heroes," from comic book superheroes to soldiers who have given their lives to cyclists as heroes juxtaposed against city traffic. Inspiring.

3 **Canada's first Free Shipping Day:** Mark next Monday, Dec. 12 on your calendar as that's the day Free Shipping Day comes to Canada. Taking a page from the popular U.S. Free Shipping Day, it allows you to snap up last-minute deals from online merchants (see freeshippingday.ca for participating merchants) and receive free shipping with delivery by Christmas Eve. Yes, sick days and surfing online should be way up come next Monday.

4 **New Year's Eve movie:** Garry Marshall's new romantic comedy New Year's Eve opens this Friday, about love and lust on New Year's in Time Square. It stars Sarah Jessica Parker, Hilary Swank, Jessica Biel, Ashton Kutcher, Zac Efron, Halle Berry, Robert De Niro and more. As Ellen said on her show this week, "Literally everyone in the world is in this movie." In other words, this New Year's Eve better not be a bust.

5 **Own the Green Bay Packers:** They're coming off a Super Bowl win last year, and are unbeaten this year. So now is a great time for the publicly owned Green Bay Packers to set up a site PackersOwner.com, that allows Cheeseheads to buy "common stocks" (they're \$250 per share) in their storied franchise. You'll be sent a 12-inch-by-8-inch certificate so that "you will be able to display your ownership with pride," according to the site. Xmas gift. In.

6 **Top trending topics:** What the Trend, Hootsuite's trend-spotting company, evaluated more than 200,000 Twitter hashtags to determine the top trending topics of 2011. The likes of Justin Bieber, Lady Gaga and Britney Spears are a few of the celebrities that made the Top 10. Thankfully, Kim Kardashian wasn't on this list. She should be on a Not Ever Trending Again list with Paris Hilton.

7 **G N' R:** With news that seminal rock band Guns N' Roses are among those being inducted into the Rock and Roll of Hall of Fame in 2012, comes new rumours of a possible reunion. I prefer to leave their Appetite For Destruction album in 1987 in high school, and not see a bloated Axl Rose ever take the stage again with Slash to perform Sweet Child O' Mine. Like rugger pants, some things really are better left in the past.

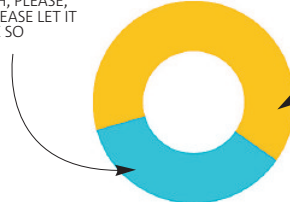
Follow Neil Morton on Twitter (@neilmorton).



Register at
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and take the quick poll

Do you think Slash and Axl will share the stage at the G N'R Hall of Fame induction?

36%
OH, PLEASE,
PLEASE LET IT
BE SO



64%
NO WAY,
THERE'S TOO
MUCH HATE

Local tweets



@DarrenFishers5: Last week its "idiots re-

fuse Molson donation" this week its "idiots accept poor deal with Oval sponsorship." What a difference a week makes

@thecoollestcool: After being picked up by a gust of wind in Halifax... I've decided to eat a bag of chips. #fatteningup

@bradthompsonorg: Wind is picking up. Just saw a metal shopping cart corral blow across a park lot and break apart.

Wow its windy. #Halifax
@FiddleFondler: Went to get coffee, wind blew an inch of coffee right out of my cup as soon as i stepped outside! #halifax #wind

@bandrews14: It's so windy in #Halifax the wind is coming down through the bathroom vent and through a closed window...#wtf

@valroil: Holy wind! Keep a look out for Mary Poppins #Halifax !!

@DalSpot: Don't forget, a puppy is not for #Christmas, it's FOREVER. #halifax. #SPCA

Daily Zoom



What's she staring at?

Fan of the bra goes a-bungee

LONDON. She got her eyes on the prize. This female bungee jumper and self-confessed lingerie fanatic took the plunge in front of a huge projection of model Adriana Cernanova at London's landmark Battersea power station on Wednesday. The jump was to launch the new Ultimate Plunge bra by Wonderbra. ● METRO WORLD NEWS



"I would have never done this for pure pleasure. I only did it because I won the competition!"

HEIDI SPEED, COMPETITION WINNER

'Bungee jump? That's a prize?!'

FEAR. Heidi, 29, mother of two, was one of three women who won an online competition to do the bungee jump. "I honestly didn't know what the prize was when I entered the competition," Heidi told Metro. "I was really nervous at the top, but a guy talked to me in a calm voice and told me it would be OK." ● METRO WORLD NEWS



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2

scene

Scene in brief



Emma Watson's advice to teenagers is: "feel comfortable in your own skin."

The 21-year-old Harry Potter star, on her second visit to Hong Kong, told reporters Thursday: "Be true to who you are and do the best to feel comfortable in your own skin. You are all right exactly as you are."

METRO



Robocop actor Peter Weller joining sequel to hit Star Trek movie due out in 2013

Synopsis

It's Dec. 31 and we follow the stories of Robert De Niro as a terminally ill man; Halle Berry as his kindly nurse. Then there's odd couple Michelle Pfeiffer and Zac Efron, anxiety-ridden Hillary Swank, ex-lovers Katherine Heigl and Jon Bon Jovi and even Ryan Seacrest pops up playing — who else? — himself. Have we left anyone out? Probably. There are more stars here than in the heavens, but rest assured, by the end of the movie, stories have woven together and no hearts are broken.

Ratings:

Richard: ½

Mark: ●

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN

SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



► Josh Duhamel gets a last-minute adjustment in the film New Year's Eve.

Dropping the ball?

► Impressive collection of stars in New Year's Eve ► But film devoid of real emotion

Richard: Mark, this mish-mash of easy sentiment, romance, illness, musical numbers and product placement flip-flops from story to story so often, it's like a five-year-old grabbed the remote and is wildly channel surfing. It's not so much a movie as it is a cavalcade of familiar names in situations geared to make you understand why everybody hates Dec. 31. Am I being too cynical?

Mark Breslin: Oh, Richard, what's the matter with you? You mean you don't like shoddy writing, implausible plot lines, cameos masquerading as script development, and a general tone of emotional manipulation? The movie screams

"BOGUS" from the opening "inspiring" shots of the Statue of Liberty to the hack credit roll outtakes.

You know what's odd? I kind of liked Valentine's Day, the earlier, funnier, more touching version of this Garry Marshall shmaltzfest. Here's a challenge: did you find anything to like?

RC: Well... let me see. I thought Zac Efron was passably charming and a couple of the outtakes at the end are funnier than anything contained in the actual movie. But there are Walmart commercials with more real emotion than director Gary Marshall manages to bring to this manipulative mess.

MB: And I didn't mind the scenes between Ashton Kutcher and Lea Michele. Trapped in an elevator, at least the movie slows down long enough for a few real moments to break through. And Larry Miller was funny as the tow truck operator.

But back to the travesties: Russell Peters hiding behind an accent he swore he'd never do; Michelle Pfeiffer's stupid bucket list; Robert DeNiro's bathetic hospital scenes; but the worst was Hilary Swank's "love" speech to the assembled Times Square multitude.

I've lived in New York, and believe me, the crowd wouldn't have applauded politely — they would have

hurled obscenities at her. Which would have been a much better scene!

RC: It certainly is a New York-centric flick. Even NYC mayor Bloomberg gets into the action.

By the time he kicks off the New Year's Eve countdown with the words, "Let's drop the ball," its already abundantly clear that Garry Marshall already dropped the ball with this movie.

MB: Very funny, Richard!

I think a better version of the movie would have been scenes of Garry Marshall convincing all those Hollywood stars to work for a fraction of their rate card.

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▶ Robert Downey Jr., left, and Jude Law are Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson.

Downey Jr. dusts off his deerstalker

Established actor reprises his role as Sherlock Holmes in sequel



**RICHARD
CROUSE**
SCENE@METRONWS.CA

Robert Downey Jr. knows how to work a room. I notice this while at the swank-a-delic Peninsula Hotel in Beverly Hills for a press conference to celebrate the release of *Sherlock Holmes: Game of Shadows*.

It's a packed panel, including co-stars Noomi Rapace (the original *Girl With the Dragon Tattoo*) and Jared Harris, mega producer Joel Silver and Downey's business and life partner Susan. Between them there are untold Oscar nominations and hundreds of millions in box office returns, but that doesn't mean squat when Downey enters and takes centre stage. All eyes — and 90 per cent of the questions — go to him. Midway he feigns embarrassment at the attention and says, "Why doesn't someone ask Joel Silver a question?"

Why? Because Downey is the most quotable, funny

and memorable person in the room, that's why.

Here's a sample of what he had to say.

On making sequels:

"There should be a whole online support team for anyone who has ever been involved in making a second part to a first that worked. There is so much to learn. The greatest disguise was us disguising ourselves as consummate by-the-numbers professionals when, in fact, we're all incredibly eccentric."

When asked to talk about performing Sherlock Holmes's drag scenes:

"I guess we're not talking about this as one of the most important films of the year. I put on some makeup. How are we going to get nominated with these kinds of questions?"

On improving on set:

"I think the goal is to make a well-written scene seem improvised, or to find

things in the room you couldn't have known until you get in the real situation and just try and improve things as you go along."

On why his co-star was absent:

"Jude (Law) would have been here, by the by, but his son had a soccer game."

On keeping the set "green":

"I just remember that every animal that was harmed was promptly taxidermied and sent as a gift to one of the many ecological companies who have these huge concerns that I validate."

On working with Jude Law and director Guy Ritchie:

"Jude and I are pretty close, but Guy and I are practically brothers. There have been times I have wanted to lob off his head with a machete."

On collaborating with his director and fellow actors:

"It was a democracy in the

truest and most frustrating and most rewarding sense of the word."

Movie reviews | See it twice 🌐🌐🌐🌐

See it now 🌐🌐🌐 | Worth watching

🌐🌐 | Yawn 🌐🌐 | Don't bother 🌐



The Sitter

Genre: Comedy

Director: David Gordon Green

Stars: Jonah Hill, Sam

Rockwell

🌐🌐½

In *The Sitter*, Jonah Hill plays a likeable, albeit contemptuous drop-out reluctantly babysitting three even more disdainful kids.

But when his hideous girlfriend lures him to score

her cocaine, the night turns into a crass journey of misadventures.

Simply put, *The Sitter* plays solely as a vehicle for Hill to perform the chubby-guy-talking-trash shtick he's mastered since *Superbad*.

If that works for you, sit tight and enjoy him in his pejorative prime.

● STEVE GOW

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS

"A FAMILY COMEDY NEVER SHORT ON CHRISTMAS CHEER."

Scott Bowles,
USA TODAY

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CLASSIC!"

Andy Lea,
DAILY STAR SUNDAY



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Atlas Shrugged: Part 1 (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:53-5:07-7:25-10
The Descendants (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:05-7:20-10:10

Happy Feet Two (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:35-7:35
Hugo (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:25-3:45-6:55-9:45

Hugo 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:35-4:25-7:35-10:25

Immortals (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 1:05-3:45-7:05-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat 1:05-3:45-7:05-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon 1:05-3:45-7:05-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Tue 1:05-3:45-7:05-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Wed 1:05-3:45-7:05-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Thu 1:05-3:45-7:05-9:45

Jack and Jill (STC) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:35-3:05-6:35-9:05

The Muppets (G) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-3:55-7:15-9:55

New Year's Eve (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Sun 12:50-1:30-3:40-4:20-6:50-7:30-9:40-10:20 Dolby Stereo Tue-Thu 12:50-1:30-3:40-4:20-6:50-7:30-9:40-10:20

Puss in Boots (G) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:30-3:00-6:30-9:00

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Thu 1:10-3:20-7:10-9:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon 1:10-3:20-7:10-9:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 1:10-3:20-7:10-9:25

Tower Heist (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:45-4:20-7:45-10:20

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 12:40-3:25-7:40-10:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat 1:35-4:57-7:40-10:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sun-Tue 12:40-3:25-7:40-10:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating

Wed 12:40-3:25-7:40 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Thu 12:40-3:25-7:40-10:25

A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (18) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 1:50-4:10-7:50-10:15 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Wed 1:50-4:10-7:50-10:15 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Thu 1:50-4:10-7:50-10:15

IMAX

190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake
902-876-4800

Happy Feet Two: An IMAX 3D Experience (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:10-6:45

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 9:30

Real Steel: The IMAX Experience (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Wed 9

OXFORD THEATRE

6408 Quinpool Rd.
902-423-7488

My Week With Marilyn (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 6:45-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 4:15-6:45-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon 6:45-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Tue 4:15-6:45-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Wed-Thu 6:45-9:10

PARK LANE

5657 Spring Garden Rd.
902-423-4860

Arthur Christmas (G) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:55-3:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:50

Happy Feet Two (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 1:15 Stadium Seating Sun 1:15 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:45

Happy Feet Two 3D (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 3:45-7:15-9:50 Stadium Seating Sat 7:15-9:50 Stadium Seating Sun 3:45-7:15-9:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:15-9:50

Hugo 3D (STC) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:35-3:25-6:25-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:30-6:25-9:10

Margin Call (14) Stadium Seating Fri 12:50-4:10-6:50-9:35 Stadium Seating Sat 6:50-9:35 Stadium Seating Sun 12:50-4:10-6:50-9:35 Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 4:10-6:50-9:35 Stadium Seating Thu 4:10-9:35

The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) Stadium Seating Sat 1:55

The Muppets (G) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:10-4:05-7:10-9:45 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:05-7:10-9:45

New Year's Eve (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:45-3:35-6:40-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:35-6:40-9:30

The Sitter (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:05-4:7-9:40 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:7-9:40

The Skin I Live In (18) Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 6:45-9:25 Stadium Seating Wed 9:25 Stadium Seating Thu 6:45

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (STC) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:30-3:20-6:30-9:15 Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 3:40-6:30-9:15 Stadium Seating Thu 3:40-9:15

LOWER SACKVILLE

760 Sackville Dr., Downsview Plaza
902-869-2022

Arthur Christmas (G) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9:15 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:20-3:55-6:30-9:15 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 6:30-9:15

Happy Feet Two (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:25

Happy Feet Two 3D (STC) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Fri 6:35 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 3:45-6:35 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 6:35

Hugo (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:10

Hugo 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 6:45-9:30 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 4:05-6:45-9:30 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:45-9:30

Jack and Jill (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:20

The Muppets (G) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 7:40-9:30 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:15-4:10-7:40-9:30 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:40-9:30

New Year's Eve (PG) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:25 Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:35-6:40-9:25 Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-9:25

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Thu 7:05-9:45

The Sitter (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:30-4:15-7:10-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:10-9:45

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9:35 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:05-4:05-6:50-9:35 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:50-9:35

DARTMOUTH

DARTMOUTH CROSSING
145 Shubie Dr., Dartmouth Crossing
902-481-3251

Arthur Christmas (G) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Mon 12:45 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Wed 1:10 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:45

Arthur Christmas 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Mon 3:30-6:30-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4:05-6:30-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 4:05-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 3:30-6:25-9:30

The Descendants (14) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Mon 12:30-3:20-6:20-9:20 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Wed 12:30-3:20-6:20-9:20 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:30-3:20-6:20-9:20

Happy Feet Two (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20

Happy Feet Two 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:35-7:40-10:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:35-7:10-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Wed 4:35-7:40-10:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 3:50-6:45-10:25

Hugo 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Mon 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Wed 1:50-4:50-7:50-10:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:50-4:50-7:50-10:50

Immortals (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 9:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 10:30 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 9:15

Jack and Jill (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:45-4:10-7:10-9:45 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 6:40-9:35 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 1:45-4:10-7:10-9:45 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Tue 1:45-4:10-7:10-9:45 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 1:30-4:10-7:10-9:45 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:45-4:10-7:10

The Metropolitan Opera: Faust - Live (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 1:55

Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (STC) Stadium Seating, No Passes Thu 10

The Muppets (G) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:35-4:20-7:20-10:30 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 1:35-4:20-7:20-10:30 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 1:35-4:20-7:20-10:30 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:35-4:35-7:30-10:30

New Year's Eve (PG) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Mon 1:4-7:10 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Tue-Wed 12:50-4:10-7:10 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Wed 1:45-4:30-7:30-10:20 Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Thu 1:47 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 1:30-4:30-7:20-10:45

Puss in Boots (G) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:40 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:50 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:40

Puss in Boots 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:25-7:45-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 4:45-7:45-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 4:25-7:45-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 4:20-6:35

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Thu 10:20

The Sitter (14) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:15-3:40-6:40-9:35 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 1:15-3:40-7:40-10:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Wed 1:15-3:40-6:40-9:35 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:15-4:05-6:40-9:35

Tower Heist (PG) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:35-15:15-6:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 12:35-15:15-6:40 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 12:35-15:15-6:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Wed 12:35-3:25-6:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:35-3:15-6:15

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:05-4:15-7:15-10:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 1:05-4:15-7:15-10:15 Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:05-4:15-7:15-10:15

Truro (STC) Digital, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Thu 10

The Sitter (14) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:35-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:30

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (STC) Fri 6:55-9:40 Sat-Sun 2:30-6:55-9:40 Mon-Wed 6:55-9:40 Thu 6:55

20 Treaty Trail, Millbrook
902-895-8020

Arthur Christmas (G) Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:10-6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:50-9:10

Happy Feet Two (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 6:55-9:35 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:25-6:55-9:35 Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 6:55-9:35 Stadium Seating Thu 6:55

Hugo (STC) Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:30

Hugo 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 6:30-9:15

The Muppets (G) Stadium Seating, Digital Fri 6:45-9:25 Stadium Seating, Digital Sat-Sun 3:05-6:45-9:25 Stadium Seating, Digital Mon-Thu 6:45-9:25

New Year's Eve (PG) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 6:35-9:20 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 3:35-9:20 Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 6:35-9:20

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) Stadium Seating Thu 10

The Sitter (14) Stadium Seating, Digital Fri 7:05 Stadium Seating, Digital Sat-Sun 3:15-7:05 Stadium Seating, Digital Mon-Thu 7:05

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:30 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:20-6:40-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-9:30

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The Sitter (14) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:35-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:30

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (STC) Fri 6:55-9:40 Sat-Sun 2:30-6:55-9:40 Mon-Wed 6:55-9:40 Thu 6:55

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Many Items In Stock for pre Christmas Delivery

She's a little Fireball

► Willow Smith wants her fans to feel empowered by her newest album

Willow Smith is all about kid empowerment.

The young singer says she's hoping to inspire listeners with her upcoming album *Knees and Elbows*.

"It's gonna make them feel like they have control over their lives and can do what they want to do and be the person they want to be," she said Wednesday night.

Willow is already proving that at just 11.

The daughter of Will and Jada Pinkett Smith has become a buzzed-about star thanks to her hit song *Whip My Hair*.

She's also become a fashion trendsetter with her funky clothes; on Wednesday, her hair was closely cropped with big bangs in the front, and she wore a cropped jacket with decals, including the name of her album, and sequined jeans.

"I get a lot of my style from my friends," she said,



► Singer Willow Smith is promoting the release of her latest music video, *Fireball*, with Nicki Minaj.

also citing her aunt. Willow recently teamed up with another fashionista,

singer-rapper Nicki Minaj, for Willow's new song *Fireball*. Willow premiered it for groups of children and their parents at the Sony Store, as well as BET's 106 & Park.

Even though Minaj and Willow are cited for their style, Willow says they didn't share any fashion tips.

"We just kind of vibed off each other and had fun," she said.

Knees and Elbows is scheduled to be released in April. Willow said it will be "more R&B." The ti-

tle ties in to her theme of inspiration.

"Everybody falls down and scrapes their knees and elbows but they eventually get back up," she said.

Willow said she and her famous family will be vacationing for the holidays, and that she's not anxious about a Christmas gift.

"I have everything I need. I have my mom, my dad, my brothers, my family; ... that's pretty much what I want to keep," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2011'S MUSICIANS WHO DESERVE ANOTHER LOOK

SOUND CHECK



ALAN CROSS
SCENE
@METRONEWS.CA

There's just too much music these days.

No wonder that so much great stuff—a disturbing amount—slips through the cracks. Here's a list of artists and albums that you may have missed over the last twelve months.

Cults/Cults

A boy-girl band from Manhattan who went from mysterious indie duo to major label signing in the space of just a few months. I dare you not to sing along.

Cut Copy/Zonoscope

Third album from this Australian electronic band which has been

nominated for a Grammy. Opener "Need You Now" is a great love song.

EMA/Past Life Martyred Saints

EMA is Erika M. Anderson, who makes music out of what seems to be a succession of life crises. It's the kind of powerful, painful stuff that Courtney Love used to make about twenty years ago.

PJ Harvey/Let England Shake

No two PJ Harvey albums ever sound alike. Her tenth album is nothing short of stunning. No wonder it won Britain's Mercury Prize.

Lykke Li/Wounded Rhymes

Think of her as Sweden's answer to Bjork and Tori Amos but without the attendant weirdness. A hit in Scandinavia, it should have garnered more mainstream attention.

ALAN IS THE HOST OF THE RADIO SHOW *THE SECRET HISTORY OF ROCK*. REACH HIM AT ALAN@ALANCROSS.CA



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Who's Fascinating to Barbara Walters

DONNA SVENNEVIG/ABC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Who's been naughty, who's been nice: Walters chats to 10 of the most prominent news-makers of 2011

On her new TV special, Barbara Walters gets up close and personal with Donald Trump.

Maybe too personal.

"We started with his hair," confides Walters. "He said, 'Pull it and you can see that it's not a hairpiece.' So I did. And I still think it's a hairpiece."

Trump — the follically perplexing reality star, businessman and sometimes presidential candidate — is on Walters' list of The 10 Most Fascinating People of 2011, which airs on ABC on Wednesday at 9:30 p.m. EST. It's the 19th annual

compilation of the year's most prominent names in entertainment, sports and popular culture.

Walters says she questioned Trump on his year of political adventures, which included commandeering the "birther" bandwagon by stoking doubt about U.S. President Barack Obama's U.S. citizenship, and by teasing voters with the prospect of his stepping into the presidential race as a Republican candidate (Trump, of course, then opted not to take the leap).

"But he still is talking about running," Walters says. "He told me, 'If the Republicans pick the wrong person, if the economy continues to be bad, I would certainly consider running as an independent.'"

Other Fascinating People include talent-show baron Simon Cowell, pop singing sensation Katy Perry and New York Yankees star Derek Jeter, who tells Walters that he'd like to own an athletic team.

"I told him, 'You're mak-



► Katy Perry, left, with Barbara Walters in New York in November.

ing a lot of money. You could buy one," reports Walters. "And he says, 'Great. I'll buy one with you.' We made a deal."

Also on board are Jesse Tyler Ferguson and Eric Stonestreet, the loving on-screen couple from ABC's comedy hit *Modern Family*, and the Kardashian reality TV family.

Other Fascinating names include Pippa Middleton, dishy sister of British royal Kate, and Amanda Knox, the former Seattle exchange student whose four years in custody ended in October when an Italian court overturned her murder conviction in the death of her roommate.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TV picks



Robyn shows SNL some love

KATY PERRY TO HOST. On Saturday Night Live, it's a pop-star extravaganza as American hit maker Katy Perry takes on the role of host and Swedish recording artist Robyn performs. Both singers were recently nominated for Grammy awards. (Global, NBC)

An Idiot goes deep-sea fishing

WHEN IN ALASKA. Karl Pilkington, who's starred alongside comedy giants Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant in their popular podcast, rides a deep-sea fishing trawler in Alaska on *An Idiot Abroad: The Bucket List* on Friday.

It's just one of many adventures Gervais and Merchant push Pilkington into for the series. (Discovery Channel)

Whose line is it, Canada?

IMPROV MEETS CHRISTMAS. Acclaimed Canadian improv troupe The National Theatre of the World presents *A Very F—ing Mame Christmas*, featuring special guest Ron James on Sunday. National Theatre of the World has won three Canadian Comedy Awards. (CBC)

Amazing Race, amazing drama

WHO SAID SUNDAY WAS THE DAY OF REST? The *Amazing Race* finale on Sunday (CBS, CTV) is followed by an intense episode of *The Good Wife*, in which Alicia tries to have a judgment thrown out after her client is shockingly found guilty. (Global, CBS)

Did RCMP not protect women?

FIFTH ESTATE PROBE. The investigative journalism series *CBC News: the Fifth Estate* delves into sexual harassment allegations at the RCMP on Friday night.

Featured is the story of women who signed up to Canada's pre-eminent police force and now claim it failed to protect them. (CBC) THE CANADIAN PRESS

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- 3 Alexandra Stan
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- 2 Adele
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- 1 Katy Perry
The One That Got Away

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How Regis Got This Way

► TV legend pens book about the famous people who have changed him

Regis Philbin still gets worked up about the 17-year-old Seinfeld episode in which he called Kramer “bonkos.”

“Oh my God, I lose my breath every time I think about it,” says the perennially exasperated TV host.

The anecdote is detailed in *How I Got This Way*, Philbin’s new memoir about his encounters with a seemingly endless parade of celebrities including Jerry Seinfeld, George Clooney, Howard Stern, Steven Spielberg, George Steinbrenner and Joe DiMaggio.

Last month, Philbin left *Live!* With Regis and Kelly after more than 28 years on

“Confidence is really the key. You’ve got to have it, you’ve got to express it. Tell everybody what you want and go get it.”

REGIS PHILBIN

Regis unplugged

After spending an astounding 16,000 hours on television since the early 1950s, Philbin has crossed paths with some major stars.

► In *How I Got This Way*, he relates those meetings with the same insider-y dish that proved so irresistible to *Live!* viewers.

morning television, many of them spent with co-hosts Kathie Lee Gifford and Kelly Ripa. During the daily host chat segment on *Live!*, he mastered the art of turning an everyday incident into an engaging story.

It’s a talent that’s on display from the moment he shows up for a 9 a.m. interview.

“You wouldn’t believe what I’ve been through!” says the excitable entertainer, launching into a colourful tale about a lost passport.

As for the job he has just left, Philbin says he’s been

so busy promoting his book that he’s had little time to miss *Live!*

Written in a highly readable format, each chapter

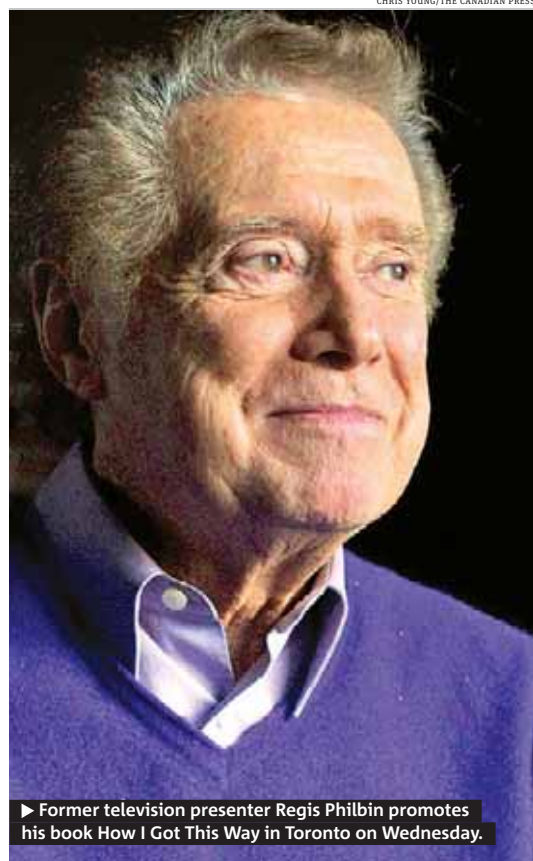
of *How I Got This Way* is about someone who made an impact on Philbin and concludes with a summary of what the *Who Wants To*

Be A Millionaire? personality took away from the encounter.

“I just kept writing about those incidents that moved me in some way,” says Philbin. “I thought, this can happen from spending one night with someone, or a meeting with someone, or just brushing against them in some way — that they can, in another way, change you for the better.”

Philbin writes about a wild night he and wife Joy spent at Clooney’s Italian villa on Lake Como. He tells of his initial encounter with shock jock Stern (his neighbour in New York City) and his friendship with the late Yankees owner Steinbrenner. He also details an encounter at Yankee Stadium with his childhood idol DiMaggio.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Former television presenter Regis Philbin promotes his book *How I Got This Way* in Toronto on Wednesday.

JOHN PINETTE

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Winning over fickle TV fans

► **Film and television execs try to lure viewers with aggressive marketing stunts and touring showcases**

Gone are the days when a loyal TV viewer would turn the dial to a stalwart network like CBS and settle in for the evening.

Rare, too, is the film fan with a standing date to catch a big theatrical release on opening day.

And so it goes that comic Patton Oswalt recently found himself on a cross-country tour to pitch his new film *Young Adult* directly to movie-goers along with actress Charlize Theron and director Jason Reitman, theatre by theatre, town by town.

"I want people to discover this movie ... just with sort of a blank brain, rather than me putting any ideas into their heads right now," Oswalt says of the promotional strategy, which had

the offbeat feature skipping the more usual festival circuit in favour of secret screenings with average viewers. "And just show them that, 'Hey, I'm excited about this, we're excited about this.'"

Film and TV marketers have been getting especially creative in their attempts to lure eyeballs in their direction, resorting to publicity stunts that seem to rely more and more on reaching out to viewers directly with on-the-street campaigns.

Stunts in 2011 included a flash mob in Toronto meant to promote the big-budget sci-fi spectacle *Green Lantern*. Marketing guru Mike Vollman says hitting the road with a movie and its cast is nothing new, but he acknowledges that out-

of-the-box tactics are a sign of the times.

"It's certainly harder to find the audiences — everyone is super-distracted, everybody I know spends their entire day with their head buried into an electronic device," says Vollman, an L.A.-based consultant with 20 years experience working with Disney, DreamWorks, Paramount and MGM.

"That has also made it super-hard to get a hold of people but that doesn't mean a flash mob is going to make you see *Green Lantern*."

Lewchuk says bold, unusual stunts can at least get an audience to sit up and pay attention, and that's a good thing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Watch us... please?

CTV pushed their fall lineup by setting up airplane-shaped screening rooms in shopping malls across Canada staffed with look-alike Pan Am flight attendants who invited mall rats to catch an early glimpse of rookie shows including *Pan Am*, *X Fac-*

tor and *Grimm*.

CTV marketing honcho Rick Lewchuk says the campaign was unusual but necessary to highlight a programming slate in an increasingly competitive entertainment field. "If you don't go the extra effort and you don't do those extra things then you're

just kind of doing what everybody else is doing," says Lewchuk, senior vice president of Bell Media Agency, CTV's in-house marketing and promotions division. "They're time consuming, they're a little bit more work, but they're fun and I think the viewers appreciate it."

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Lohan's shoot leaks

► Lindsay Lohan to appear on Ellen to officially unveil her Playboy cover

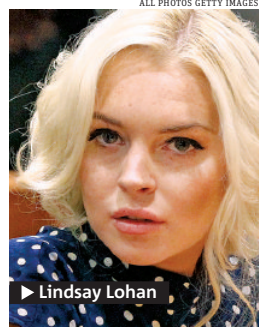
The cover of Lindsay Lohan's issue of Playboy has leaked a week ahead of its unveiling, according to Hollyscoop.

The vintage-themed cover features a naked Lohan straddling a red chair in the shape of the Playboy bunny logo that strategically blocks certain parts of her body.

"The pictorial is absolutely fantastic and very tasteful, and will be accompanied by an interview that will let readers see another side of Lindsay," her rep has said of the magazine's content.

Lohan is still set to appear on Ellen DeGeneres' show next week to officially unveil the issue and give her first interview since violating her parole.

She is rumoured to have received \$1 million for the shoot. ● METRO



► Lindsay Lohan

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Talking points

Nothing Wilde to see here

RELATIONSHIPS. While Olivia Wilde has maintained that her love life is pretty quiet despite reports to the contrary, sources now say she's been dating Saturday Night Live star Jason Sudeikis — and apparently has been for a while, according to Us Weekly.

"She's come to the studio at Rockefeller Center, and they've gone out to dinner after rehearsals," a source says, adding that "they walked in holding hands" at the show's most recent after-party.

● METRO



Celebrity tweets



"When I got my house the cable guy said 'oh man, you bought the crazy house. This house makes people go crazy. All the cable guys know that'"



"sometimes i have good ideas, like going to see the Black Keys. and then sometimes i decide to eat dinner while watching Contagion. doh."

@AlbertBrooks

"It seems Alec Baldwin quit Twitter. His followers are welcome here, but prepare to martyr yourself when I ask."

● METRO

Is Lauer out at Today?

► NBC Universal courting Ryan Seacrest to replace Matt Lauer as host of Today

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONOVS.CA



Rumor has it that NBC Universal is courting Ryan Seacrest to replace Matt Lauer on the Today show next year.

Although Lauer hasn't announced his retirement, he has hinted at it quite seriously, and NBC wants someone big to replace him. And it's start-

ing to look like that someone is our generation's version of Dick Clark.

The Wall Street Journal announced the news of the courting on Thursday but so far NBC is keeping mum on the speculation. A Today spokesperson went on record about the move, saying, "there seems to be an awful lot of speculation around news anchors these days, and it's not our practice to comment on any of it. Matt Lauer has a long-term contract with NBC News and Today."

Here's the thing:



► Ryan Seacrest

Seacrest is an amazing entertainer and host and deserves all the success that

comes with his self-made media empire.

But does the guy have the chops to report on something as heavy as, say, terrorist attacks?

He's too tan. Too involved in the Kardashians. Too smiley.

But maybe that's me just being a Hollywood-ist. And maybe what the show needs is Seacrest interviewing a head of state and then ending it with his trademark, "Seacrest, out!" What do you think about this possible job move? Write in to let me know.



► Angelina Jolie

Jolie brushes off lawsuit claims

Angelina Jolie isn't too worried about being sued by a writer who claims she stole his idea for the directorial debut.

"In the Land of Blood and Honey," according to the L.A. Times. "It's par for the course. It happens on every film," Jolie says.

Author James Braddock

claims the film is an adaptation of his book the Soul Shattering, which was published in 2007.

"There are many books and documentaries that I did pull from," Jolie says. "It's a combination of many people's stories. But that particular book I've never seen." ● METRO

3
life

Nordic super diet



Sweden is considered one of the world's healthiest nations. The Swedish diet consists of lots of heart-healthy fish, such as salmon and herring and high-fibre, dark and dense breads. Also popular is dairy, which has high amounts of calcium, helping with fat metabolism, says celeb fitness trainer Harley Pasternak. **METRO**



O, tannenbaum, what have you wrought? Live, artificial tree marketers exchange barbs.

Drinking like it's 1999



PETER ROCKWELL
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

I saw Prince in concert last week and while I'm not sure if it was his out-of-control funkfest (hello, the guy is 53!) or having drinks after the show with a female friend who looks even better than she did in college, I can testify that some things do get better with age.

Wines can be a lot like that, but not always. Most mid-priced vino is drank within 48 hours of leaving the shelf so many wine-makers design their juice to accommodate immediate drinking.

That doesn't mean your local liquor store won't have bottles you can squirrel away. Reds are best bets. Those from France's Burgundy and Bordeaux regions, bigger-bones Spaniards, Italians from Tuscany, and California cult wines make good candidates for the cellar.

Italy's 2007 Ruffino Riserva Ducale Chianti Classico (\$22.95 - \$34.99) comes from a spectacular year and though it will taste great with pasta today, with its dense core of dark cherry fruit, anise and light herbal spice it will age nicely over the next ten years. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS CANADA. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



Catch of the week

While you have more free time on weekends, the kitchen may be the last place you want to spend it This simple fish dish is the perfect quick meal

DINNER EXPRESS

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA



For this dish, using salt in the skillet instead of oil helps to create heat.

It also allows you to cook with no added oil in the pan.

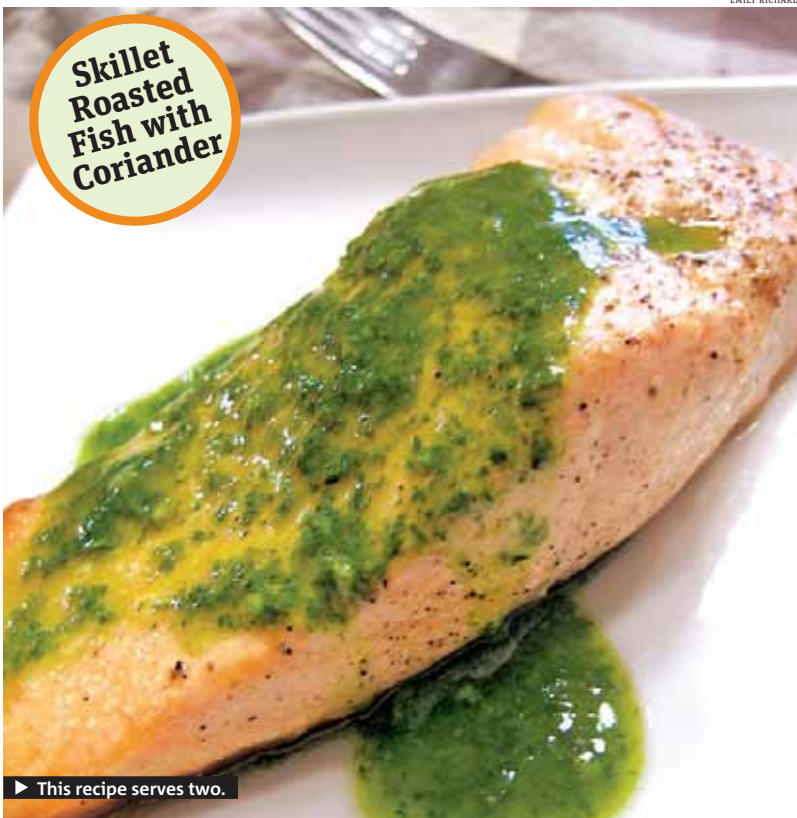
The salt is a essentially a hot bed in which to cook the salmon, and help the fish skin cook directly onto the salt for easy removal.

Skillet Salt Roasted Fish with Coriander Drizzle Preparation:

- 1 In a skillet, spread kosher salt in a single layer and place it over medium-high heat for about 10 minutes or until the salt is hot to the touch.
- 2 Place the salmon fillets on top and brush tops with some of the oil. Sprinkle with pepper.

Ingredients:

- 2 cups (500 mL) Kosher salt
- 2 salmon fillets, skin on (about 12 oz/375 g total)
- ¼ cup (50 mL) extra virgin



► This recipe serves two.

Cover the skillet and cook for about 15 minutes or until firm to the touch. Remove the fish from heat and keep it covered for 3 minutes.

Remove the fish from the salt with spatula, leaving skin on salt.

- 3 Remove the fish from the salt with spatula, leaving skin on salt.

- 4 In a blender, purée cilantro, garlic and remaining oil until it is

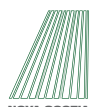
smooth and add vinegar. Pour the mix over the salmon and sprinkle it with smoked salt to serve.

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A CELEBRITY TV CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA

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Moose get a crack at depleted Sea Dogs

If the Halifax Mooseheads are going to win the QMJHL's Maritime Division title, this weekend will play a big role in doing so.

The Mooseheads (19-7-3) trail the league-leading Saint John Sea Dogs (25-8-1) by 10 points but have five games in hand. They kick off the weekend Friday in Charlottetown against the P.E.I. Rocket, then visit the Sea Dogs on Saturday and host them on Sunday at 3 p.m.

Winning those head-to-head matchups will help prevent the Sea Dogs from pulling away.

"We're not in a bad position, and we have a chance to play them twice this weekend," said Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme. "But we don't talk about the standings. We're focusing on the process and the way we play."

The Sea Dogs, last year's Memorial Cup champions,

have beaten the Moose in 14 straight games dating back to December 2009.

On paper, they're ripe for the picking. Stars Jonathan Huberdeau, Zack Phillips and Nathan Beaulieu will be away at the Canadian world junior camp, while Stanislav Galiev and Ryan Tesink are out with injuries.

But the Sea Dogs have played most of the year without Huberdeau and Galiev and they've barely

missed a beat.

"It'll be tough games, but just because we've got (key players missing) doesn't mean we're going to lay down," said Sea Dogs head coach Gerard Gallant.

"We've still got some pretty good players here. We're going to compete hard and give ourselves a chance to win. They're getting their guys healthy, they're a good team this year, and it should be a good battle."



► Sea Dogs head coach Gerard Gallant.

4

sports

Halifax gets boost in firepower



► Halifax Mooseheads forward Martin Frk rips a shot on goal during a practice last week.

► Frk to make long-awaited debut on Friday night vs. P.E.I. ► Joins potent line with MacKinnon, Grenier



MATTHEW WUEST
@METRONEWS.CA

The Halifax Mooseheads aren't wasting any time reuniting Martin Frk with Nathan MacKinnon.

Frk, who is returning from a concussion and will make his season debut on Friday against the P.E.I. Rocket in Charlottetown, will start on the left side with MacKinnon and right-winger Alexandre Grenier.

Frk played with the 16-year-old MacKinnon in training camp and put up four goals and two assists in three pre-season games.

"We'll manage his ice time depending on how things go," said head coach Dominique Ducharme. "He can't be playing 20 minutes, for example. We'll

Injury report

With Konrad Abeltshauser away at the IIHF's Pool B world junior championship with host Germany, the Mooseheads are going with five healthy defence-men on the weekend.

► Austyn Hardie is back from a jaw injury giving them a fifth natural blue-liner, while forward Travis Randell is expected to take shifts on the back end when needed.

monitor that. He'll play power play, he'll play five-on-five, but he'll get some shifts off so he can come back gradually."

Playing primarily on the right side last season, Frk finished tied for fourth in QMJHL rookie scoring with

50 points in 62 games. He's new to the left wing, but Ducharme isn't concerned.

"We needed a right shot to be playing left, and he's got good enough hands to do that," Ducharme said. "I think he actually enjoys it more on the left side. He gets opportunities for one-timers and when he's coming into the zone, it gives him the option of cutting back to the middle and using his shot."

On stats alone, the line has a chance to be potent. MacKinnon, with 49 points in 29 games, and Grenier, with 28 points in 25 games, are 1-2 in team scoring. Frk is the top returning scorer from last season.

"That's how we'll start, and we'll evaluate it," Ducharme said.

Quoted



"It's still positive. We're confident that Jonathan's going to be here."

MOOSEHEADS HEAD COACH DOMINIQUE DUCHARME ON WHERE THINGS STAND WITH SECOND OVERALL PICK JONATHAN DROUIN, PICTURED. THE TEAM IS BELIEVED TO BE ON THE VERGE OF GETTING THE HIGH-SCORING LEFT-WINGER'S FORMAL COMMITMENT TO REPORT TO THE TEAM FIRST THING NEXT WEEK.



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Yes Yu did: Darvish on way to MLB

Japanese pitcher Yu Darvish ended months of speculation Thursday by saying he intends to make a move to Major League Baseball.

The 25-year-old right-hander, considered the best pitcher in the Japanese professional leagues, wrote on his blog that he had decided to use the posting system, which allows MLB teams to bid for the negotiating rights to Japanese players who have yet to become free agents. Daisuke Matsuzaka and Ichiro Suzuki went to the major leagues under the system.

"I have decided to use the posting system," he said. "I wanted to tell my fans directly, so that is why I am posting this on my blog."

Darvish went 18-6 with a 1.44 ERA this season for the Hokkaido Nippon Ham Fighters. His 276 strikeouts led the Pacific League.

"I owe a lot of thanks to my team," Darvish said, adding he would provide more details at a yet-to-be-scheduled news conference.

The six-foot-five Darvish has superb control and throws seven effective pitches, including a two-seam fastball introduced during the 2010 season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Angels make Albert's wallet a whole lot fatter

Exactly six weeks after winning the World Series in St. Louis, superstar first baseman agrees to \$254 million, 10-year deal to play in California



Albert Pujols celebrates winning the World Series in Game 7 over the Texas Rangers in St. Louis on Oct. 28.

Albert Pujols could have been a wealthy Cardinal for life, planning for the day his statue would be erected outside Busch Stadium next to those of Stan Musial, Bob Gibson and the other St. Louis greats.

Instead, after leading the Cardinals to a second title in a thrilling World Series, he chose to accept the second-highest deal in baseball history for a future with the Los Angeles Angels.

The three-time NL MVP agreed Thursday to a \$254 million US, 10-year contract with the Angels, jilting the fan base of one of the sport's traditional teams for a club with only one championship in its half-century.

Many top stars have changed teams mid-career, but this is perhaps the best

"This is a monumental day for Angel fans and I could not be more excited."

ANGELS OWNER ARTE MORENO, WHO BOUGHT THE TEAM FOR \$184 MILLION FROM THE WALT DISNEY CO. IN 2003.

player in the game over the past decade exiting shortly after one of the great post-season power shows.

Pujols' honours include the 2001 NL Rookie of the Year award, MVPs in 2005, 2008 and 2009, a batting title in 2003 and two Gold Gloves.

Now, he's going West. As his deal fell into place at the winter meetings in Dallas, the Angels struck another big agreement, a

402

The Cardinals selected Albert Pujols in the 13th round of the 1999 amateur draft with the 402nd overall pick.

\$77.5 million, five-year contract with left-hander C.J. Wilson, whose Texas Rangers lost to the Cardinals in the World Series.

"This is obviously the moment where we have thrown our hat in the ring," Angels manager Jerry Dipoto said.

Pujols could've been the rare modern star who stays with a team from first at-bat to final swing. Now some will call him a sellout. Pujols rejected a multi-

year extension last off-season that was said to include a small percentage of the Cardinals franchise. St. Louis also offered a 10-year deal that chairman Bill DeWitt Jr. said was in excess of \$200 million.

"I would like our fans to know that we tried our best to make Albert a lifetime Cardinal," he said in a statement, adding later in a telephone interview: "They were substantially higher than our bid."

Pujols' contract is only the third to break the \$200 million barrier, following Alex Rodriguez's \$252 million, 10-year deal with Texas before the 2001 season and A-Rod's \$275 million, 10-year agreement with the Yankees in 2008.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Coach Hay set for 2nd WJC tour

Jean Chretien was still the prime minister the last time Don Hay coached Canada in the World Junior Championship.

Now, 16 years later, Hay is about to begin his quest for another gold medal in the same province — Alberta — where he led a team that included future NHLers Ryan Smyth and Ed Jovanovski to glory.

"I really feel that this is the time for me to step back in," said Hay, who also coaches the Western Hockey League's Vancouver Giants. "I'm really looking forward to it and I'm really honoured."

Hay arrives in Calgary on Friday for a selection camp that will determine the team to compete in the annual Christmas-time tournament. His 1995 Canadian squad went a perfect 7-0. But the expectations will be much greater this time.

Back then, the tournament did not receive the same hype that it does now and was played in smaller venues like Red Deer, Alta. This time, games will be played in Calgary and Edmonton exclusively.

"The tournament's really grown," said Hay, a native of Kamloops, B.C. "It's gone from mid-city venues to big-city venues and it's a real big event."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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NBA shoots down deal to send Paul to Lakers

The NBA, as owners of the New Orleans Hornets, won't trade all-star guard Chris Paul to the Los Angeles Lakers.

NBA spokesman Mike Bass says: "It's not true that the owners killed the deal,

the deal was never discussed at the Board of Governors meeting and the league office declined to make the trade for basketball reasons."

A person familiar with the trade told The Associat-

ed Press that the framework for a deal had been in place, but that Paul would report to Hornets camp Friday.

Lakers forward Lamar Odom would have gone to New Orleans and fellow Los

Angeles forward Pau Gasol to Houston, the third team in the trade, people told The Associated Press on Thursday. They spoke on the condition of anonymity because the deal was not finalized. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crosby just being 'smart' by sitting out

► Penguins captain hopes to be skating by Friday ► 'We want to err on the side of caution,' he says

Pittsburgh Penguins star Sidney Crosby hopes to skate again as early as Friday after being assured by his doctors that he does not have another concussion.

Crosby plans to work out that day in Pittsburgh — he did not accompany the Penguins on their current two-game road trip — with the anticipation of rejoining the team on Monday.

The Penguins, admitted-

ly being cautious with the NHL's marquee player, decided that Crosby should not play Thursday in Philadelphia or Saturday against the New York Islanders once he experienced a post-practice headache Wednesday.

Crosby passed a concussion test that afternoon and is not believed to have had a significant setback only two weeks since returning

Tuesday

The Penguins will hold an off-day practice Monday before their home game against Detroit on Tuesday — when Crosby likely will return, barring any additional setbacks.

from a 10-month concussion layoff, but neither the Penguins nor their captain

were taking any chances.

"I just want to be smart with this," Crosby told the Penguins' website. "It's been a long road back and we want to err on the side of caution."

Headaches were one of the major symptoms — along with dizziness and a sensitivity to bright light and loud noises — that Crosby experienced while being sidelined from Jan. 6

until Nov. 21.

"After practice, he had a slight headache," Penguins coach Dan Bylsma told reporters in Philadelphia. "He knows his body well. It's been a long 10 months. And as a precautionary (move), he is kind of taking (the Flyers') game off and through the weekend."

Crosby did not feel well after being hit hard several times during the Penguins'

3-1 loss at home Monday to the Boston Bruins. He was given Tuesday off but went through a full practice Wednesday.

Shortly after practice ended, Crosby developed a headache, prompting him to be given a concussion test. No concussion was indicated, however, concussions do not always show up immediately in testing.

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'It's been a dream of mine'

► Magloire expected to sign a deal with his hometown Raptors on Friday afternoon

It was never going to take Jamaal Magloire long to ingratiate himself with Raptors fans. He is a local product, an NBA veteran, and a well-spoken grownup with a level of gravitas in the community few Toronto basketball players have ever had.

But he hit the right chord at the end of his first scrum as a soon-to-be-Raptor, nailing what his presence might mean so well that fans won't be able to do anything but appreciate him even more.

"I am the hockey player of this team," Magloire said at the Air Canada Centre after working out Thursday morning. "I'm the one that's gritty, that will work hard, and that will do what-



► Jamaal Magloire speaks to reporters on Thursday.

ever it takes to get wins at the end of the day."

Magloire is expected to finalize a contract with the Raptors on Friday afternoon, as soon as the final vestiges of the NBA lockout are blown away.

Terms of the deal aren't public — the Raptors can't

even confirm they have interest because the league prohibits team officials from uttering the name of free agents until Friday afternoon — but Magloire will get at least one year guaranteed at the veteran's minimum of about \$1.5 million for a player with his

experience, with perhaps option years after that.

The 33-year-old centre will become the first Canadian player to ever sign with the Raptors. More importantly, he will give the team an inside presence, at a minimal cost, which the Raptors desperately need as

the building process continues.

"It's been a dream of mine for a very long time," he said of the opportunity to suit up with Toronto.

There are several layers to Magloire's role with a Raptors team that opens training camp with a Friday night practice at the Air Canada Centre.

He is the fourth big man on a roster that will need as much roster depth as it can find in a compressed 66-game regular season; he is the oldest player on the roster and the one with the greatest amount of NBA experience; he has played in the NBA Finals and in all-star games, a history none of his teammates can match. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

NBA says Paul to L.A. trade a no-go

The NBA, as owners of the New Orleans Hornets, won't trade all-star guard Chris Paul to the Los Angeles Lakers.

NBA spokesman Mike Bass says: "It's not true that the owners killed the deal, the deal was never discussed at the Board of Governors meeting and the league office declined to make the trade for basketball reasons."

A person familiar with the trade told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity that the framework for a deal had been in place.

Lakers forward Lamar Odom would have gone to New Orleans and fellow Los Angeles forward Pau Gasol to Houston, the third team in the trade.

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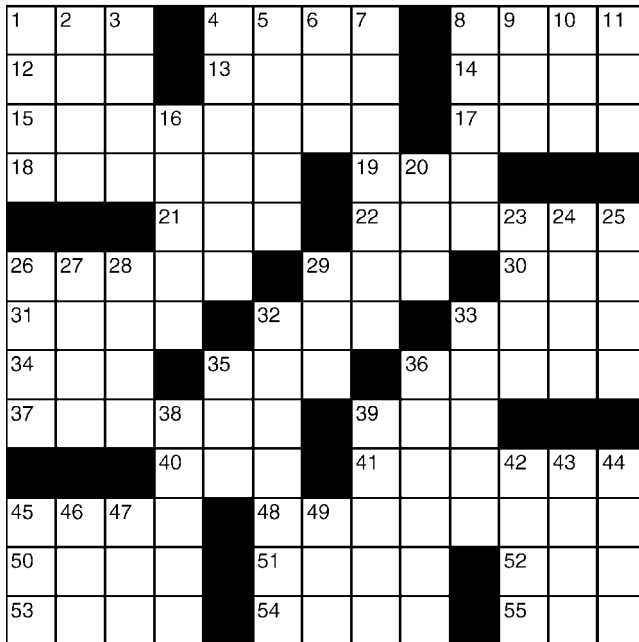


Crossword

Across

1 Pickle holder
4 React in horror
8 Anything but that
12 Past
13 Concept
14 Stroll
15 Medium-sized dog
17 Without acting
18 To-do list
19 Every last crumb
21 Stimp's cartoon pal
22 Lassie, e.g.
26 Pavarotti's range
29 A mere handful
30 Toss in
31 Nerve cell process
32 Carte lead-in
33 Turned blue?
34 Gas stat
35 Wall climber
36 Deep-voiced singer
37 "French" dog
39 Shriner's chapeau
40 "— the fields we go ..."

41 Anti-elderly prejudice
45 Satchmo's genre
48 Large terrier
50 Burn soother
51 Pesky insect
52 Silent
53 Night light?
54 Tackles' team-mates
55 Crony
Down
1 — Pinkett Smith
2 Quite enthusiastic
3 Judicial garb
4 Construction piece



5 Madison Avenue worker
6 Vast expanse
7 Cure-all
8 Dungaree, for one
9 Owned
10 Under the weather
11 Heavens
16 Company that went under in 2001
20 Depressed
23 Pringles competitor
24 Bad day for Caesar
25 Taro root
26 Pack (down)

27 World's fair
28 "Forget it"
29 Aviate
32 Mean
33 In a stupor
35 — de-France
36 Sires
38 Doughnut shop purchase
39 Capacitance measure
42 Poetic foot
43 Insult
44 Note to self
45 Van Eyck or Vermeer

46 Milwaukee product
47 Menagerie
49 Hostel

► Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►



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mikeyy, Happy anniversary! 39 months & more to come :) Thanks for always being there. You're the best. I love you so much! xox BABUH

Honeey Bee, you're everything to me. you're my best friend, my lover, my shoulder to cry on, my kawaii, my baby & my secret keeper. i know i can count on you for anything <3 i cant wait to see what the future has in store for us. i love you & i mean it when i say it. xo. I LOVE BUG

My darling, Prince Charming, I am happier and stronger now that I know for sure that I'm in your thoughts and dreams and that you really love me as I am in spite of the big gap between us! Next Wednesday you have to add one more candle! I bless the day I met you, you are the one that I am waiting for my whole life! love you, CL

Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Travel will be a lot of fun today but if you overdo it, tomorrow's lunar eclipse will bring you back to earth!

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Inner changes are making you rather touchy at the moment but, as always, the moment will pass.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 You're in an assertive and adventurous mood, but some people may see you as too domineering.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 The approaching eclipse has got you in a bit of a tizzy. You may have to lie down for a bit to get your balance!

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23 You will be enthusiastic about something you discover today but don't get carried away and preach to people.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22 You may lose patience with someone you work with today, but they are not being obstructive for fun.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 You're in one of those moods when you'll do anything for anyone. If not careful, you'll be taken advantage of.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 A financial opportunity will intrigue you, but is it the kind of thing you want to get involved in long-term?

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You may fall heavily for someone today, but don't get carried away because this is a passing fancy.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Certain duties may be tiresome but if you tackle them now, then your time will be your own.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 The approaching eclipse will bring more tension into your life but you have what it takes to handle it.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. Family squabbles of one kind or another are likely over the next two or three days. **SALLY BROMPTON**

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

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